Claim Listing

Claims 1-50 are canceled. Claim 51 is new.

1-50. (Canceled).

51. (New)   A data processing system for supporting web-based commerce and commission tracking on a multi-node network comprising:

a first affiliate site operated by a first affiliate for displaying data comprising promotions and a plurality of other information on a web page;

a second affiliate site operated by a second affiliate for displaying data comprising promotions and a plurality of other information on a web page;

a clearinghouse server in direct communication with said first and second affiliate sites, said clearinghouse server operable to parse HTTP commands data received from said first and second affiliate sites, said HTTP data including an affiliate field comprising one or more subvariables; and

a merchant site in communication with said clearinghouse server, wherein said merchant site is operable to obtain information triggered by said affiliate site from said clearinghouse server and said merchant site is operable to submit information to said clearinghouse server relating to affiliate referral activity on said merchant site;

wherein said clearinghouse server is operable to assign compensation to both said first affiliate and said second affiliate in response to (i) a network-connected user's use of a primary referral link provided by said first affiliate site to reach said second affiliate site; (ii) said user's use of a secondary referral link provided by said second affiliate site to reach said merchant site; and (iii) said user's completion of a transaction with said merchant site.

2